

May 19, 2005

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXVI. No. 9

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| WHAT | NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS |
| WHERE | DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE 2208 S. 223rd St. (Take Midway exit #149 west off I-5...go to first stop light west of Pacific Hwy. South...Turn right.) |
| WHEN | Thursday, May 19th..7:00 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:00 p.m.) |
| WHY | A short business meeting..auction (one item lot per member please)..door prize..Show & Tell..Member's trade and sell tables (free to members, please cover during business meeting.) <u>Program:</u> We will review our 25th <u>Show Experience Weekend</u> . Please bring your tales and treasures from the Show to share with your fellow members. |

OUR 25TH SHOW..A LOOK BACK & A LOOK FORWARD:

Our twenty-fifth silver anniversary Show Experience Weekend got off to a fine start at our Club meeting on Thursday evening; with the most interesting talk by guest speaker, Mr. Mike Kessler. His slide talk, "The Art of the Album" was a fascinating look at an area of photographica about which few of us had much knowledge. Now we have one more item to look for at garage sales and flea markets. The question & answer session that followed Mike's talk was also fascinating and his story of the early U.S. Capitor daguerreotypes he found at a California flea market, and later sold to the Smithsonian, had his audiences complete attention. Lets hope Don Tempel can find someone as interesting for our 26th Show.

Our set-up on Friday evening seemed to go well with about two thirds of the sellers setting up. The hospitality room was well attended and Sheila had done a fine job of food gathering within the budget with which She had to work.. Those who attended seemed both hungry and thirsty. A pleasent time was had by all.

Our Show & Sale on Saturday seemed to reflect the time in which we live. Between ebay etc. and digital cameras there seems to be a drop in peoples' need to attend a Show selling mainly film cameras and related items. We sold a total of 191 tables. This is the first time we have dropped below 200. We had a total of about 800 buyers. This was down a bit from last year but there seemed to be a good number of buyers throughout the hall during most of the sale. As always, some sellers had better days than others but some "treasures" were found and several large items were seen going out the door.

Because of the raise in the table charge to \$40.00, and the strict budget the Show Committee worked with, it looks as if--before Shirley has all the final figures-- the Show came close to breaking even. This is not the best of news but not the worst either.

We have decided, based on the above, to hold our Show for at least one more year. The Fair has been contacted and our dates for the 2006 Show are once again the LAST Saturday in April..the 28th and 29th. This is due to the fact that in 2006 April is again a four Saturday month and Easter falls when it does. It seems that the Fair always holds it's Spring Fling the weekend after Easter and we are always on the next weekend in their schedule. At any rate, next year our Show will be on the weekend of the 28th and 29th. The show committee thinks they can further reduce expenses and still put on a quality Show. Only time will tell.

ONE MORE SPRING SHOW:

The Columbia Gorge Camera Club is holding it's 10th annual Gresham Camera Swap Meet on Saturday, May 21st from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. It will be located at the Gresham Grange..875 NE Division St. in Gresham, Oregon which is just east of Portland off of I-84 at the 238th Drive Exit. Admission is \$4.00 with a \$10.00 early bird at 7:30 a.m. Tables are \$35.00. This has been a very friendly, but small, show in the past but would be a wonderful excuse for a trip into the scenic Columbia River Gorge. For all the information call Krystal (503) 239-8912.

From the Western Canada Photographic Historical Association for May 2005 comes the review of their last Show by Siggi.

Camera Show A Success

First of all I would like to thank all the people who helped to make this another great show! Brigitte as usual did a tremendous job. The consignment table was busy, but the people behind it made the changes we were talking about and there was only a minimal line-up. Great job guys!! The floor helpers and security were tremendous.

This was our 30th show and we are in our 15th year! Let's try to make the next show even better.

Well, McCardell from Global TV did his thing and we had a nice coverage, we definitely need it!

Table sales are down and we also had a lower attendance figure of 950, plus the vendors from the 120 tables, about 200.

According to the vendors, sales were actually up. I certainly had better sales than at the last show. I even managed to buy three items!



Catalog #77, 1939

Univex MERCURY

- ★ Fine TRICOR F:3.5 Lens
- ★ Speeds to 1/1000 Second
- ★ Photoflash Synchronizer
- ★ Focal Plane Shutter
- ★ Automatic Film Transport
- ★ Built-in Exposure Calculator

The latest American made super-speed candid camera at a price within the reach of everyone. Incorporates features usually found only in the most expensive foreign made cameras, including: shutter speeds from 1/20 to 1/1000 second; built-in photoflash synchronizer; automatic film transport coupled with the film winding knob to prevent double exposures; automatic exposure counter; brilliant parallax correcting view finder; focusing by 17 graduations from 18 inches to infinity. Uses quick loading, economical 35 mm. film (36 exposure rolls). Weighs 18 ounces and measures 5 7/16x2 1/2x1 3/8". Polished aluminum case with genuine leather covering. Furnished with fine TRICOR f:3.5, 35 mm. focus lens. **\$25.00**

PH1832—YOUR COST, POSTPAID.....

PH9687—Eveready cowhide carrying case for above.....\$5.00

PHOTO-FLASH UNIT: Attaches to above in a jiffy. Consists of a chromium plated reflector, battery case, flashbulb housing and attachment clip. Less battery and bulb. **\$3.95**

PH8025—YOUR COST, POSTPAID.....

Film for Univex Mercury SHIPPED POSTPAID IN U.S.A.

PH3400—Ultraspeed 36 exp. EACH.....40c

PH3401—Microtomic 36 exp. EACH.....45c

PH3402—Ultrapan S.S. 36 exp. EACH.....50c

THIS MONTH'S MYSTERY QUESTION:

Answer at end of Newsletter

With thanks to the Western Photographic Historical Society:

What rifle like camera was used in WW-I to train R.A.F. machine gunners?



THE BELLOWS Newsletter is published 10 times per year by Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc. Information for The Bellows should be sent to Bill Kimber 1413 Weathervane Dr., Tacoma, WA 98466-5712 (253) 564-4046, billkimber@webtv.net

The P.S.P.C.S. internet address is www.pspcs.org

Dues are \$20.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road, Cle Elum, WA 98922 (509) 674-1916, ssparrow@eburg.com P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our 4th Saturday in April yearly show.

PRESIDENT: DARREL WOMACK (206) 244-6831 DARRELCAM@COMCAST.NET

Graflex Inc.

by Ria Ryne

Most people, when contemplating the heyday of print journalism, picture the stereotypical hard-bitten reporter, notebook in his hand, press card in his fedora, cigar in his mouth. If there is also a camera in this mental picture, odds are it is a Graphic. Be it a Pre-Anniversary, Anniversary, or Pacemaker Graphic, these cameras played an important part in the evolution of photography in this country. And to think that they might never have come to be there if not for the

which sold at the time for \$25.00. Also listed were regular "Graphic" cameras, available in three sizes, costing \$50.00.

George Eastman bought the company in 1905 and moved it to Rochester, NY, where it was renamed "Folmer and Schwing Co., Rochester. In 1907 the company was absorbed by Eastman Kodak, becoming its Folmer and Schwing Division, and by 1917 it was the Folmer-Century Division.

The Folmer-Century Division was put up for sale as a result of a court order in 1926. There was no

Photos Courtesy Robert Suolama



popularity of the bicycle in the latter part of the 19th century.

In the late 1800's the bicycle had become one of the most popular leisure time activities of the day. It was at about this time also, that the advent of the first Kodak cameras was beginning to make photography widely accessible. Naturally, people interested both in cycling and photography chose to combine the two activities.

William F. Folmer and William E. Schwing began a partnership in 1887 to form a bicycle company in New York City. In April 1890 the company was incorporated under the name of "Folmer and Schwing Manufacturing Company." The company gradually began adding cameras to their inventory, at first probably cameras by Scovill and Adams. A catalog from 1896 shows a "4X5 Cycle Graphic Camera",

buyer for the division, so finally the Folmer Graflex Corporation was organized to take over the division's assets. In 1945 the company took the name "Graflex Inc."

During the depression, business was not good and the company's payroll shrank to fewer than 100 employees. As the economy improved, so did the situation at Graflex Inc., and by 1957 over 750 workers were employed by the company.

Graflex became a division of General Precision Equipment Corp. in 1956 and in 1966 became a division of Singer Corp. In 1975 Graflex was dissolved.

Although the Graflex Corp. is no longer in existence, many of the cameras it produced are, and they can be as functional today as they were years ago; I would know because I shoot one most every weekend.

Stereo Cameras Since 1930

by Ron Kriesel

Say, that sounds like a good title for a book, and, of course, it is. I hope you enjoy these book reviews. It is amazing that there is so much material published about stereoscopy, and I seem to continue to find information which I had not heard about until yesterday.

So do you have a stereo Leica? A stereo Speich? A stereo Rollei? A stereo Leica LC-2002? If you do, you are a rare, rare individual. First the stereo Leica was a prototype, and only one was produced. There were 15 stereo Speichs produced, so there might be one around somewhere! Stereo Rollei's numbered 1 or 2, again prototypes only. Now here you have a chance: the stereo Leica LC-2002 numbers 3 produced to date. It was introduced in 1985 by Pop-Optix Labs, Newton Center, Massachusetts. So you may need to inquire about number 4?

This fine book, a must for the avid stereo camera collector, was published in 1988 in Germany by Werner Weiser. It is an illustrated documentation of 69, yes, count them, stereo cameras manufactured since 1930. Each camera has a page of specifications and a page of photo views of front, top and back. The specifications are marvelously complete except for the production quantity on many of these cameras.

If you are looking for a stereo camera of the 1950s vintage, look first for the Realist — about 130,000 produced including standard 3.5's and 2.8's; and second for the Kodak — about 100,000 produced. Both of these can make good photographs; perhaps the Realist has a slightly sharper lens over all ranges.

Some of you may have heard of the Duplex Super 120, but did you know there was a "plain Jane" Duplex 120? One camera of which I was not aware is the Kilfitt Stereo (Prototype I). Only about 5 were made. It strikes me as a camera which should have been produced but was not. It was produced in Germany and weighs about as much as the Realist. I have chosen it as the collectable to die for!

Koberg Beach, Hood River

by Norma Eid

Today, anyone with some time to while away in Hood River, Oregon, would probably be told to head for the Columbia Gorge Hotel. Built in 1921 by Simon Benson, lumber baron and philanthropist, this hotel has been restored to its former Italianate architectural grandeur. It is at its photographic best during the Christmas season when 65,000 lights decorate the building and its grounds.

Others might suggest taking a ride on the 89-year-old Mt. Hood Railroad where each bend in the route brings a spectacular view of Mt. Hood. The route is busiest during the apple blossom festival when the entire valley is in bloom.

Earlier in the century, particularly on a hot, summer day, Koberg Beach would have been on the list of "must see" suggestions. Unlike the two popular sites mentioned above, nothing remains of the popular beach, located just east of the town of Hood River on the west side of Stanley Rock. The rock was named for the Stanley Family who first homesteaded the land along the Columbia River in the last century. Later, they sold the land to John Koberg, a German immigrant, who started a dairy farm and truck garden on the property.

John Koberg was a serious farmer but also an entrepreneur who recognized the possibility of developing a swimming area along the sandy beach at the base of Stanley Rock. Prior to building the bridge across the Columbia, the site was used as a landing for the ferry that crossed the river between Hood River and Lyle. The swimming hole became very popular, and many residents, young and old, learned to swim and dive at Koberg Beach. Koberg, who always had water safety as a priority, sponsored the Hood River Red Cross in offering swimming and diving lessons. Some of the earliest water skiing in the area took place in the waters near Koberg Beach.

Later, Koberg built the large building pictured in the copy of a postcard of the period. The bottom floor featured a shooting gallery, the second floor was for picnickers, and the top floor was a dance pavilion that featured live music three nights a week. The building was always referred to as the "dance pavilion" in spite of its other uses.



Bonneville Dam spelled doom for the "finest swimming and recreational resort in the mid-Columbia region." Its rising waters flooded the swimming area and the lower level of the dance pavilion in the late 1930s. Later, the building was removed, and in 1951 the Oregon State Highway Commission purchased the Koberg property for the I-84 express highway. There is a small rest area on the side of Stanley Rock that faces I-84, but few of those pausing there can imagine the good times enjoyed at Stanley Rock over a half a century ago. Postcards of Koberg Beach are rare, further adding to the fading memory of what used to be an exciting part of community life in Hood River.

So

What rifle like camera was used in WW-1 to train R.A.F. machine gunners?

Answer: The Mark III Hythe camera made by the Thornton-Pickard Company of England about 1915. The Camera used roll film with a picture size of 4.5 X 6 cm. This machine gun like camera is valued at between \$600 and \$800.

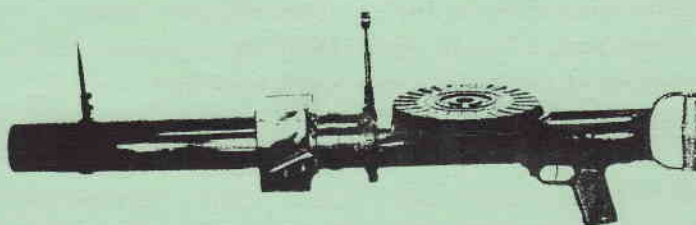


Photo from McKeown's